IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A composition capable of exhibiting a detectable and measurable color transition in response to a concentration of 0% to about 20%, by weight, of a dialdehyde, said composition comprising:
- (a) a diamino carboxylic acid <u>in an amount</u> of about 1% to about 25%, by weight of the composition;
 - (b) a water-soluble polymer; and
 - (c) a carrier comprising water.
- 2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the diamino carboxylic acid has a formula:

wherein R is alkyl substituted with amino, amido guanidine, or ureido, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the diamino carboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of lysine, ornithine, L-2,3-diaminopropionic acid, L-2,3-diaminobutyric acid, arginine, canavanine, hydroxylysine, asparagine, glutamine, and mixtures thereof.

when

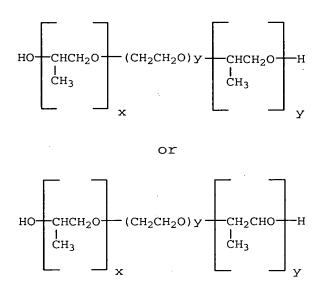
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4. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the diamino carboxylic acid is lysine, ornithine, arginine, or a mixture thereof.

5, (Cancelled).

- 6. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the diamino carboxylic acid is present in an amount of about 5% to about 15%, by weight of the composition.
- 7. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the water-soluble polymer comprises a nonionic polymer.
- 8. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein the polymer comprises a cellulose-based polymer.
- 9. (Original) The composition of claim 8 wherein the cellulose-based polymer is selected from the group consisting of methylcellulose, hydroxymethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxyethylmethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose and salts thereof, hydroxybutylcellulose, cellulose acetate, carboxymethylhydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxybutylmethylcellulose, and mixtures thereof.
- 10. (Original) The composition of claim 9 wherein the polymer comprises hydroxyethylcellulose.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydrolyzed polyvinylpyrrolidone, poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl acetate), vinyl acetate-vinyl alcohol copolymer, poly-(methacrylamide), a polyoxypropylene-polyoxyethylene block polymer having a structure:



wherein x and z, independently, are an integer from about 4 to about 30, and y is an integer from about 4 to about 100, polyacrylamide, a vinyl alcohol copolymer, and mixtures thereof.

- 12. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein the polymer is present in an amount of 0.1% to about 5%, by weight of the composition.
- 13. (Original) The composition of claim 1 further comprising anionic surfactant.

- (Original) The composition of claim 13 wherein the anionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of an ethoxylated polysorbate, an ethoxylated alcohol, an ethoxylated phenol, a polyethylene glycol, a polypropylene glycol, an ethylene glycol-propylene glycol copolymer, an alkyl sulfate, an alkyl ether sulfate, an alkyl ether sulfonate, a sulfate ester of an alkylphenoxy polyoxyethylene ethanol, an alpha-olefin sulfonate, a beta-alkyloxy alkane sulfonate, an alkyl arylsulfonate, an alkyl carbonate, an alkyl ether carboxylate, a fatty acid, a sulfosuccinate, an alkyl ether sulfosuccinate, a sarcosinate, an octoxynol phosphate, a nonoxynol phosphate, a taurate, a fatty tauride, a sulfated monoglyceride, a fatty acid amido polyoxyethylene sulfate, and mixtures thereof.
- 15. (Original) The composition of claim 1 comprising:
- (a) about 1% to about 25% by weight diamino carboxylic acid; and
- (b) about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxymethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and mixtures thereof.
- 16. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the carrier further comprises an organic solvent.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 16 wherein the organic solvent comprises methanol, ethanol, or acetone.

18-29. (Cancelled).